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Comparison - Idaho 2021 Benchmark Statistics

The Bureau of Labor Statistics' revised Idaho's 2021 labor market data during its annual benchmarking process to include updated information, such as Census population data or employment surveys provided by businesses.

The BLS benchmarking process includes revisions to state labor force estimates – population, total employed, unemployed, unemployment rate and total nonfarm jobs – based on new inputs and population data. Nonfarm jobs are benchmarked using reported employer data.

The BLS adjustments for Idaho resulted in a higher unemployment rate than what was initially reported in each month of 2021, as well as a lower labor force participation rate in 2021.

On average, Idaho's population was undercounted by 23,000 each month last year including an average of 13,000 labor force participants (currently working or actively seeking work) not being included in each month's respective estimate.

The survey structure is less likely to capture new residents not currently employed, leading to an average underestimation of 6,000 unemployed Idahoans seeking work per month.

Pre to Post Benchmark Change

| Month | Labor Force | Employed | Employment % | Unemployed | Rate | LF Participation | Pop. |
|-------|-------------|----------|--------------|------------|------|------------------|--------|
| Jan. | 7,661 | 2,057 | -0.6% | 5,604 | 0.5% | -0.2% | 16,716 |
| Feb. | 10,094 | 3,643 | -0.6% | 6,451 | 0.7% | -0.1% | 18,319 |
| Mar | 12,668 | 5,857 | -0.4% | 6,811 | 0.7% | 0.0% | 20,172 |
| Apr | 13,741 | 6,914 | -0.4% | 6,827 | 0.7% | 0.1% | 19,594 |
| May | 14,318 | 7,336 | -0.4% | 6,982 | 0.7% | 0.0% | 22,836 |
| Jun | 15,273 | 8,404 | -0.3% | 6,869 | 0.7% | 0.1% | 22,060 |
| Jul | 15,986 | 9,419 | -0.3% | 6,567 | 0.6% | 0.1% | 23,229 |
| Aug | 15,125 | 9,367 | -0.3% | 5,758 | 0.6% | 0.0% | 24,200 |
| Sep | 14,817 | 9,727 | -0.4% | 5,090 | 0.5% | -0.1% | 26,114 |
| Oct | 14,116 | 9,471 | -0.4% | 4,645 | 0.4% | -0.2% | 27,372 |
| Nov | 13,168 | 7,864 | -0.6% | 5,304 | 0.6% | -0.3% | 28,296 |
| Dec | 12,259 | 5,482 | -0.8% | 6,777 | 0.7% | -0.4% | 29,300 |
| Avg. | 13,269 | 7,128 | -0.5% | 6,140 | 0.6% | -0.1% | 23,184 |

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Pre-Benchmark

| Month | Labor Force | Employed | Employment % | Unemployed | Rate | LF Participation | Pop. |
|-------|-------------|----------|--------------|------------|------|------------------|-----------|
| Jan. | 900,287 | 869,144 | 60.9% | 31,143 | 3.5% | 63.1% | 1,426,762 |
| Feb. | 899,915 | 870,059 | 60.9% | 29,856 | 3.3% | 63.0% | 1,428,437 |
| Mar | 899,355 | 870,565 | 60.8% | 28,790 | 3.2% | 62.8% | 1,432,094 |
| Apr | 900,381 | 872,165 | 60.8% | 28,216 | 3.1% | 62.7% | 1,436,014 |
| May | 901,477 | 874,153 | 60.8% | 27,324 | 3.0% | 62.7% | 1,437,762 |
| Jun | 902,256 | 875,110 | 60.7% | 27,146 | 3.0% | 62.6% | 1,441,304 |
| Jul | 902,921 | 876,204 | 60.6% | 26,717 | 3.0% | 62.5% | 1,444,674 |
| Aug | 904,921 | 878,366 | 60.6% | 26,555 | 2.9% | 62.5% | 1,447,874 |
| Sep | 906,152 | 880,273 | 60.6% | 25,879 | 2.9% | 62.4% | 1,452,167 |
| Oct | 907,659 | 882,556 | 60.6% | 25,103 | 2.8% | 62.4% | 1,454,582 |
| Nov | 908,661 | 884,857 | 60.7% | 23,804 | 2.6% | 62.3% | 1,458,525 |
| Dec | 909,467 | 887,379 | 60.7% | 22,088 | 2.4% | 62.2% | 1,462,166 |
| Avg. | 903,621 | 876,736 | 60.7% | 26,885 | 3.0% | 62.6% | 1,443,530 |

Post Benchmark

| Month | Labor Force | Employed | Employment % | Unemployed | Rate | LF Participation | Pop. |
|-------|-------------|----------|--------------|------------|------|------------------|-----------|
| Jan. | 907,948 | 871,201 | 60.3% | 36,747 | 4.0% | 62.9% | 1,443,479 |
| Feb. | 910,009 | 873,702 | 60.3% | 36,307 | 4.0% | 62.9% | 1,446,755 |
| Mar | 912,023 | 876,422 | 60.4% | 35,601 | 3.9% | 62.8% | 1,452,266 |
| Apr | 914,122 | 879,079 | 60.4% | 35,043 | 3.8% | 62.8% | 1,455,608 |
| May | 915,795 | 881,489 | 60.4% | 34,306 | 3.7% | 62.7% | 1,460,598 |
| Jun | 917,529 | 883,514 | 60.4% | 34,015 | 3.7% | 62.7% | 1,463,364 |
| Jul | 918,907 | 885,623 | 60.3% | 33,284 | 3.6% | 62.6% | 1,467,903 |
| Aug | 920,046 | 887,733 | 60.3% | 32,313 | 3.5% | 62.5% | 1,472,074 |
| Sep | 920,969 | 890,000 | 60.2% | 30,969 | 3.4% | 62.3% | 1,478,281 |
| Oct | 921,775 | 892,027 | 60.2% | 29,748 | 3.2% | 62.2% | 1,481,953 |
| Nov | 921,829 | 892,721 | 60.1% | 29,108 | 3.2% | 62.0% | 1,486,821 |
| Dec | 921,726 | 892,861 | 59.9% | 28,865 | 3.1% | 61.8% | 1,491,466 |
| Avg. | 916,890 | 883,864 | 60.3% | 33,026 | 3.6% | 62.5% | 1,466,714 |